

309 Yoakum Pkwy #601

Alexandria, VA 22304

October 6, 1985

Dear Mom and Dad,

I have been meaning to write for several days now, but my class projects have been keeping me pretty busy. And then work often interferes with my studying during the day! I have enclosed a copy of my report on "The Limits to Growth" for Dad. As you will notice it was done rather hastily and in response to the instructor's evident desire for criticism.

A second project in the same class (Simulation and Machine Learning) has been giving me a lot of trouble but I believe I have it figured out now. I will send a copy of that report when it is completed. Perhaps Dad will want to reproduce my calculations in Basic. I am using "Turbo Pascal", a version of the Pascal language for the IBM PC.

Today we ran the 20 mile race from Old Town to Mt. Vernon and return. The race actually goes inside the grounds of Mt. Vernon and startles the tourists. It was a beautiful day with a bright sun and temperature in the 50's. We expect more good weather this week. The sun reveals the turning leaves very well and we are planning a drive to the mountains next Saturday in order to enjoy them and get out for a ride.

I was glad to get Mom's call yesterday and hear that you are either well or close to recovery. As I said on the phone, last Saturday we visited Annapolis and stopped at a site mentioned in

the guidebook. I have enclosed the brochure for the spot across the river from Annapolis where a ferry boat operated for nearly 100 years and carried, according to the extant logbook, many of the well-known persons of the colonial period. That was another perfect day and we enjoyed a stroll and dinner in Annapolis.

Last Friday night we went to the Arena Stage and viewed "The Good Woman of Setzuan", a play by Bertold Brecht. There are a number of good plays coming up this season and we are planning to see several operas as well.

As I told you, Vickie is traveling to Boston to participate in a management survey or audit of one of the Defense Logistics Agency field sites. She will leave Oct 21 and return Nov 1. I am flying up on Friday, Oct 25 and will return Sunday night. I hope she doesn't hate it because I encouraged her to go!

We were both pleased, not to say surprised, to hear about Diane's successful audition for what must be a rather select group of young musicians. I hope she will be able to keep up with the required practice and meetings.

I haven't heard from Sandi lately, but as far as I know the house purchase is going ahead as planned. Please call her if you are interested in the progress. I don't have time to do any more than fill out the forms which are sent to me.

Writing this letter was a welcome break; I'll try and do so again soon!

Love,

*Jim + Vickie*